l: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

136 *March*, when it is waſhed away again by the high water ariſing
226 from the melting of the ſnow; which happens regularly every year.
The herrings come every day to the mouth of the outlet, as if to inform themſelves whether the paſſage was yet open, and remain there from morning 'till evening, when they return to the deeper part of the lake. The *Kamtſchadales* obſerving this, break holes in the ice near the mouth of the outlet, where they put down their nets, and catch great quantities. This fiſhery continues ſo long as the ice remains upon the lake. They catch them likewiſe with nets in the ſummer, at the mouths of the rivers;
262 when they boil out the fat, which is as white as butter, and more
438 delicate than that of any other fiſh; and ſend it from the lower *Kamtſchatkoy* fort (where the greateſt quantity is made) as a rare preſent, to the other forts.

CHAP. X.

Of the BIRDS.

136 *KAMTSCHATKA* abounds in birds, but the in-
223 habitants make leſs uſe of them than of roots and fiſhes:
433 the reaſon of this is, that they don't well know how to catch them; and their fiſhery is ſo advantageous to them, that to leave that and go a bird-catching would be as ridiculous as for the huſbandman to leave his plough and go a ſhooting.

136 I ſhall here divide the birds into three claſſes: the firſt, ſea fowls; the ſecond, the freſh-water fowls; and the third, thoſe which frequent the woods and fields.

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237 223 bladders, which they uſe inſtead of corks to their nets. The way of catching them is ſingular, being angled for as fiſhes are, in the following manner: they faſten a thick iron, or wooden hook to a long rope or ſtrap, baiting the hook with a whole fiſh, the point of which comes out near the back fin, and then throw it into the ſea; this the cormorants obſerving gather about it in flocks, and quarrel among themſelves who ſhall have the prize, until the ſtrongeſt obtains it and ſwallows it; then being drawn on ſhore, they take out the hook and bait by putting their hands into its throat. Sometimes they faſten a live cormorant, which they call a decoy, to the rope, and that it may not ſwallow the bait, tie down its bill with a cord: the others ſeeing the decoy ſwim ſo near the ſhore, come with greater ſecurity to the bait. The *Kamtſchadales* make needle-caſes, and combs to comb their nettles, of the bones of their wings.

136 Beſides the above-mentioned tchaiki, or cormorants, there is another ſpecies which haunt the rivers: theſe are called robbers, becauſe they take the prey from the ſmall birds; their tail is forked like that of the ſwallow.

136 787 The procellaria, or ſtorm birds, are about the bigneſs of a ſwallow; their feathers are all black, except the tops of their wings, which are white; their bill and legs black. They haunt about the iſlands, and before a ſtorm they fly low and ſkim the ſea, and ſometimes into the ſhips, which the ſailors look upon as the ſign of an approaching violent gale.

136 The ſtariki *, or glupiſha, belong to this ſpecies. The ſtariki are about the bigneſs of a pigeon; have bluiſh bills, and bluiſh black feathers about the noſtrils, which look like briſtles; the feathers of the head are of the ſame colour, interſperſed here and there with white ones, which are longer and thinner than the reſt; the upper part of the neck is black, but the lower black and

* Mergus marinus niger ventre albo, plumis anguſtis albis aurirus. STELL.

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136 white ſpeckled. The belly is white, the wings ſhort, the large feathers of which are black, and the reſt blue; the ſides and tail are black; the feet are red and webbed; and the nails black and ſmall: it 223 haunts about rocky iſlands, where it likewiſe builds its neſt: The *Kamtſchadales* catch theſe fowls eaſier than they do the tchaiki, or cormorants: they put on a fur-coat of a particular make, and letting their hands fall down, ſit down in a proper place, and wait for the evening; when the birds returning from the ſea ſeek to retire into holes for the night, and in the dark ſeveral of them fly into their furs, and are caught.

136 Among the birds deſcribed by Mr. *Steller* are the black ſtarikis *, whoſe bills are as red as vermillion, the right ſide of which is crooked; it has a white tuft upon its head. He ſaw a third ſpecies in *America*, which was ſpotted black and white.

The glupiſha are about the largeneſs of the common river cormorants; and are found upon the rocky iſlands, in high ſteep places; their colours are grey, white, and black; and are perhaps called glupiſha, that is, fooliſh, becauſe they frequently fly 237 into the boats. Mr. *Steller* ſays, that numbers of them are caught 223 in the fourth and fifth *Kuriliſki* iſlands, which the inhabitants dry in the ſun; they ſqueeze the fat through the ſkin, which paſſes very 136 eaſily, and uſe it for burning. He likewiſe writes that all the rocky iſlands in the ſea between *Kamtſchatka* and *America* are covered with them. He has ſeen ſome as large as a gooſe, or an eagle; their bills are crooked and yellowiſh; their eyes are large like thoſe of an owl; they are black intermixed with white ſpots over the whole body. He once ſaw, 200 verſts from land, great numbers of them feeding upon a dead whale, which ſerved them alſo to appearance for lodging; and in his paſſage through the *Penſchinſka* ſea, he ſaw many of the glupiſha, ſome of which

* Mergulus maximus alter totus niger criſtatus, roſtro rubro. STELL.

were

1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

were black, and others white; but none of them came ſo near the veſſel as to be exactly obſerved. 136

The * kaiover, or kaior, a bird of this ſpecies, is black, with its bill and feet red; builds its neſt, which is very curious, upon high rocks in the ſea, and whiſtles very loud, for which reaſon the Coſſacks call it ivoſhik, or poſt-boy. I never ſaw this bird.

The fowl † urile, of which there is great plenty in *Kamtſchatka*, called, by writers, ſea ravens, is about the bigneſs of a common gooſe, with a long neck and ſmall head; the feathers upon the whole body are of a bluiſh black, except upon its thighs, where they are white and in tufts; there are alſo ſome long white feathers like hairs, here and there upon its neck; it has a red membrane or ſkin round the eyes, a ſtrait bill, black above and reddiſh below; and its feet are black and webbed: when it ſwims it holds up its head, but flying, it ſtretches it out like a crane; it flies ſwift, but riſes heavily; and feeds upon fiſh, which it ſwallows whole: in the night time, theſe fowls ſtand in rows upon the edges of the cliffs, from which in their ſleep they frequently fall into the water; where they are caught by the ſtone foxes, who watch for them; they breed in the month of *July*; 136 222 their eggs are green, about the bigneſs of a hen's egg, and being boiled thicken a little, but are ill taſted; however the 223 *Kamtſchadales* climb the higheſt rocks in ſearch of them, at the hazard of their lives. They catch them with nets, and in the evening with nooſes faſtened to a long pole; and theſe creatures are ſo void of apprehenſion, that, though they ſee the next fowl to themſelves taken away, they will ſit ſtill and receive the nooſe, 'till they are all taken off the cliff; their fleſh is hard and ſinewy; but the natives prepare it in 252 262

* Columba Groënlandica Batavorum. Stell.

† Corvus aquaticus maximus criſtatus periophtalmis cinnaburinis, poſtea candidis. Stell.

much.

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252 ſuch a manner that, as victuals are there, it is not bad; they
262 roaſt it in holes dug in the earth, without plucking off the feathers, or taking out the entrails, and when roaſted, they ſkin and eat it.

825 The natives ſay that theſe birds[1] have no tongue; but this is not true, for they cry in the mornings and evenings: Mr. *Steller* compares their noiſe to the ſound of a trumpet.

136 223 CLASS II. *Of thoſe Birds which haunt for the moſt part about the freſh Water.*

The firſt of this claſs is the ſwan, which is ſo common in *Kamtſchatka*, both in ſummer and winter, that the pooreſt perſon can have no entertainment without a ſwan. When they are moulting they hunt them with dogs, and kill them with clubs: in the winter they catch them in thoſe rivers that do not freeze.

136 Here are ſeven kinds of geeſe, which are diſtinguiſhed thus: large grey geeſe, gumenniki, ſhort necks, grey and ſpeckled, white necks, ſmall white geeſe, and foreign. They all come here in the month of *May*, and depart in the month of *October*, as Mr. *Steller* ſays; who likewiſe writes, that they come from *America*, and that he himſelf ſaw them paſs *Bering*'s iſland in great flocks, flying eaſt in the harveſt and weſt in the ſpring. In *Kamtſchatka* are principally found the large grey geeſe, the gumenniki, and the grey and ſpeckled; the ſmall white gooſe is hardly ever found here. Again, in the North Sea, about *Kolimi* and other rivers, are vaſt numbers of them; and the beſt down
223 is brought to *Jakutſki* from theſe places. They catch them at the time they caſt their feathers, in the following manner:— They build huts with two doors, near thoſe places where they moſt commonly ſit at night. The fowler putting a white ſhirt on, above his cloaths, ſteals as near the flock as he can; and ſhewing himſelf

1 [Urile Corvus aquaticus maximus Cristatus periophtalmiis Cinnabarinis, postea candidis Stell.]

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himſelf he creeps away upon his hands and feet towards the hut: then going through it, and obſerving that the geeſe have followed him, he ſhuts the door behind him, and running round he comes in at the other door, which ſhutting likewiſe, he encloſes all the geeſe. 223

Mr. *Steller* obſerved in the month of *July* upon *Bering's* iſland an eighth kind of geeſe, about the bigneſs of the white ſpeckled Its back, neck, and belly were white; its wings black; its cheeks white, yet ſomewhat greeniſh; its eyes black, with a yellow ring; the bill has a black ſtripe round it, and is red, with a knob like the *Chineſe* or *Muſcovy* geeſe: this knob is bare and yellowiſh, except that along it there is a ſmall ſtripe of bluiſh black feathers. The natives report that this ſort of geeſe is likewiſe found upon the firſt *Kuriliſkoy* iſland; however they were never obſerved upon the continent. 136

The people of *Kamtſchatka* have different methods of catching geeſe when they caſt their feathers; ſometimes they purſue them in boats; ſometimes they hunt them with dogs; but moſt of them are caught in pits, which they dig near thoſe lakes where the geeſe haunt, and cover up carefully with graſs: theſe the geeſe coming upon the ſhore fall into, and are caught. 223

There are eleven different ſpecies of ducks in *Kamtſchatka*; namely, the ſeleſni, ſharp tails, tcherneti, plutonoſi, ſvaſi, krohali, lutki, gogoli, tchirki, turpani, and ſtone ducks: of which the ſeleſni, tchirki, krohali, and gogoli, winter among the ſprings; all the reſt come in the ſpring, and fly away in harveſt, as the geeſe do. 136

The ſharp tails are of that kind which writers call the *anas caudacuta, ſive havelda iſlandica.* They haunt in the bays of the ſea, or about the mouths of great rivers: they ſwim in flocks, and with their cry, which is extraordinary, make no diſagreeable muſick. Mr. *Steller* writes, that the larynx, or lower part of their throat, has three openings, covered with thin

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being ſomewhat yellowiſh at the end, with a ſmall white ſtripe; the head is black, and upon its temples are ſmall white ſpots: it weighs about a pound and a half. 136

In the harveſt the females are found in the rivers, but none of the drakes: they are very ſtupid and eaſily caught where the waters are clear and ſhallow, for they do not fly away at the ſight of a man, but only dive, and therefore may be eaſily killed with poles, as I myſelf have frequently done. Mr. *Steller* ſaw ſeveral of this kind of ducks in the *American* iſlands.

They catch the ducks with nets in the following manner: 223 in a wood that happens to ſtand between two lakes, or between a lake and a river, they cut a ſtrait paſſage, through which the ducks fly during the ſummer; here in the harveſt, when the fiſhery is over, the natives faſten to long poles ſeveral nets, which in the evenings they raiſe as high as the ducks are uſed to mount: round the nets a ſtring is drawn, by which they can reef them together, as ſoon as they find the ducks entangled; but they ſometimes fly with ſuch force and in ſuch numbers, that they break through. They likewiſe catch them in ſmall rivers with nets ſtretched acroſs the ſtream: but this is a method not peculiar to *Kamtſchatka*.

To this claſs belongs likewiſe the gagari, or columbus, of 136 which there are four ſpecies *, three of which are large, and 825 the other ſmall: the firſt of the largeſt has a tail; the ſecond 787 a clay coloured ſpot upon its neck, a little above the crop: the third is called by *Wormius*, the northern lumme; and *Marſilius* calls the fourth the little lumme. The natives pretend to foretel the change of weather by their crying and flying; for they think that the wind muſt always blow from that point towards which they fly: however they are frequently deceived in their judgment.

* 1. Columbus maximus. Gesn. Still. 2. Columbus arcticus lumme dictus. Worm. 3. Columbus macula ſub mente caſtanea. Still. 4. Columbus ſive pedicipes cinereus. *Ejuſdem.*

1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

Here are alſo found great numbers of ſmall birds, ſuch as plovers and ſnipes of different ſorts, which they catch with ſnares and gins.

CLASS III. *Of the* LAND FOWLS.

The chief of theſe birds is the eagle, of which there are four ſpecies in *Kamtſchatka*: the firſt is the black eagle, with a white head, tail, and feet. Theſe are rare upon the main land of *Kamtſchatka*; but, according to Mr. *Steller*, they are found in plenty on the iſlands between it and *America*. They make their neſts (which are near ſix feet in diameter, and about a foot thick) of ſhrubs upon high cliffs, and in the beginning of *July*, lay two eggs. The young ones are as white as ſnow: theſe he ſaw upon *Bering*'s iſland, but not without danger from the old ones, which, even when he did not the leaſt hurt to their young, attacked him with ſuch violence that he could ſcarce defend himſelf from them with his ſtick. The ſecond is the white eagle, which the *Tunguſi* call elo: this I ſaw near *Nertchinſki*; however it is not white but grey. Mr. *Steller* ſays, that this is bred upon the river *Hariouſkovoi* which runs into the *Penſchinſka* ſea. The third is the black and white ſpotted eagle. The fourth, the dark clay-coloured eagle, the extremities of whoſe wings and tail are ſpotted: theſe two laſt mentioned abound moſt here. The natives eat the eagles, and eſteem them agreeable food.

Here are likewiſe ſeveral other birds of prey, ſuch as vultures, hawks of various kinds, owls, and above all, ravens, crows, and magpies, which are the ſame with thoſe in *Europe*. Beſides, here are great numbers of cuckoos, water ſparrows, growſe, partridges, thruſhes, larks, ſwallows, and ſeveral other ſmall birds, whoſe appearance in the ſpring the natives expect with great impatience, and thence begin their new year.

In the concluſion of this chapter we have added a liſt of ſome plants, beaſts, fiſhes, and birds, with their names in the *Engliſh*, *Ruſſian*, *Kamtſchatka*, *Koratſki*, and *Kuriliſki* languages.